

International Baccalaureate Program, Accelerated Learning

Statistics

There are presently six approved IB programs in the state of Utah, with the anticipation of a seventh being granted status in the spring of 2007. In 2006 Utah students took a total of 866 International Baccalaureate exams at four high schools: West High School, Skyline High School, Hillcrest High School, and Hunter High School. The total number of exams passed with a score of 4 or above was not published on the International Baccalaureate website due to the small number of schools. The Utah school's self-reported pass rates ranged from 83% to 97%.

Advanced Placement

Current advanced placement funding is at a "per exam passed" rate equal to the total appropriation for Advanced Placement, \$1,633,649, divided by the total number of exams passed, 15,508 in 2006. This equates to \$105.34 per AP exam passed for the 2005-2006 year.

International Baccalaureate Program

Starting with the 2007-2008 academic year, International Baccalaureate Program participants will be required to pay a one-time registration fee of \$123 and \$84 per exam, with six exams required to complete an IB Diploma. This results in a total cost of \$627 for a student to earn an IB Diploma. If the cost of the registration fee is included with the exams, the average cost per exam becomes \$104.50.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the International Baccalaureate program be included under Accelerated Learning Programs and be granted funding by the same mechanism as used for the Advanced Placement program. Using the 866 reported exams from 2006, and estimating an IB cost per exam a \$105, \$90,930 in additional funding for the Accelerated Learning programs would be needed to cover the cost of the exams. This calculation reflects a 100 percent pass rate.